



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
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September 9, 2009

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name and title.

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

This memorandum contains a pursuit of County position on three bills that would allow essential public services to have access to priority reserve credits, and the status of one County-advocacy bill.

Pursuit of County Positions on Legislation

SB 450 (Lowenthal) and **SB 827 (Wright)**, as amended on September 4, 2009, and **SB 696 (Wright)**, as amended on September 1, 2009, would authorize the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) to issue permits to essential public services and previously exempt businesses, notwithstanding the court decision in Natural Resources Defense Council v. SCAQMD. The bills sunset on May 1, 2012 and contain urgency clauses.

SB 696 and SB 827 also: 1) clarify that nothing in the court case requires the setting aside of any permit issued by the SCAQMD to any essential public service; 2) allow the SCAQMD to issue permits for small businesses, except for an electrical generation facility; 3) allow the district to issue permits for essential public services; 4) clarify that nothing in the bills affects the decision in the court case concerning the adoption, re-adoption, amendment, or environmental review of Rule 1315, which the Superior Court ruled violated the California Environmental Quality Act; and 5) require the SCAQMD to rely on the emission reduction credit tracking system used prior to the

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adoption of Rule 1315, until a new tracking system is approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and is in effect. SB 450 includes the provisions listed above, and also allows the permitting and issuance of emission reduction credits for electric utility steam boiler replacements. However, SB 450 does not allow emission reduction credits to be issued for new power plants.

SB 696 and SB 827 are identical to County-supported SB 579 (Lowenthal), and SB 450 is nearly identical to SB 579 (Lowenthal), with the exception that it allows the permitting and issuance of emission reduction credits for electric utility steam boiler replacements, but not new power plants. Support for SB 450 is also consistent with existing Board policy. **Therefore, the Sacramento advocates will support SB 450, SB 696, and SB 827.** SB 450 and SB 827 are set for a hearing on today in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee, and SB 696 is currently at the Assembly Desk. Support and opposition to the current versions of the bills is unknown.

Status of County-Advocacy Legislation

County-supported AB 719 (Lowenthal), as amended on August 19, 2009, which would require the California Department of Social Services to propose a Transitional Food Stamps for Foster Youth demonstration project, passed the Assembly Floor by a vote of 50 to 0 today, and now proceeds to Governor.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA
MR/EW:sb

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Local 721
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations
Buddy Program Participants